(b) whether there is any proposal to set up a ropeway at Kemangundi Hills; and

(c) whether there has been comprehensive package by the Central Government for development of tourist spots in Chikmanglur district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The State Tourism Department, Karnataka have identified the following places for development of tourism in Chickmagalore District:

Chickmagalore Taluk	Mullayangiri, Bababudangiri, Hiremagalur, Muthodi game sanctuary and Belavadi
Tarikere Taluk	Kemmangundi, Amrutapura, Bhadra
Mudigere Taluk	Kalasa, Horanadu, Kudremukh, Angadi, Ballalrayandurga
Sringeri Taluk	Sringeri
Kadur Taluk	Ayyuanakere
Koppa Taluk	Hirekodigi

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism on the basis of project proposals prioritized in consultation with them provides central financial assistance. The following proejcts have been sanctioned by this Ministry for devleopment of tourist spots in Chickmagalore District:

(i) Development of Chickmagalore Wilderness for Rs. 202.48 lakhs during 2004-05

(ii) Construction of Eco-Tourism facility at Lakkavalli, Bhadra, Chickmagalore District for Rs. 45.45 lakhs in 1999-2000.

Inclusion of Chitrakoot in International Tourism Map

2317. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced to include Chitrakoot, which had been a Karambhoomi of God Ram in olden days, in India's International Tourist Map;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and by when it is likely to be practically implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) (a) to (c) Tourist information on Chitrakoot is hosted on the website of Ministry of Tourism— www. incredibleindia.org

Private and public investments in tourism sector

†2318. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government propose to formulate a new scheme for increasing private and public investments in tourism sector;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether anytarget has been fixed by Government in this regard; and

(d)if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism has a scheme of 'Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects' for increasing private public partnership/investments in tourism sector for taking up projects like tourist trains, cruise terminals, convention centres, golf courses etc. under which assistance is released on the basis of project proposals received and prioritized by the Ministry of Tourism. An amount of Rs. 30 crore has been allocated in the Plan Budget 2005-06 for this scheme.

The Ministry of Finance has come out with a Viability Gap Funding Scheme to assist Large Tourism Infrastructure Projects like International Convention Centres, etc. through Public Private Partnership mode.

New National Tourism Policy

†2319. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tourism is an important source of revenue

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.